3

Setup and Adjustment

NOTE: Stand behind the mower as if you were going to operate it. Your right hand corresponds to the right side of the mower; your left hand corresponds to the left side of the mower.

IMPORTANT
DO NOT crimp the cables when lifting the handle up. Make sure to route the cables under the lower handle.

IMPORTANT
This unit is shipped without gasoline or oil in the engine. Fill up gasoline and oil as instructed in the accompanying engine manual **BEFORE** operating your mower.

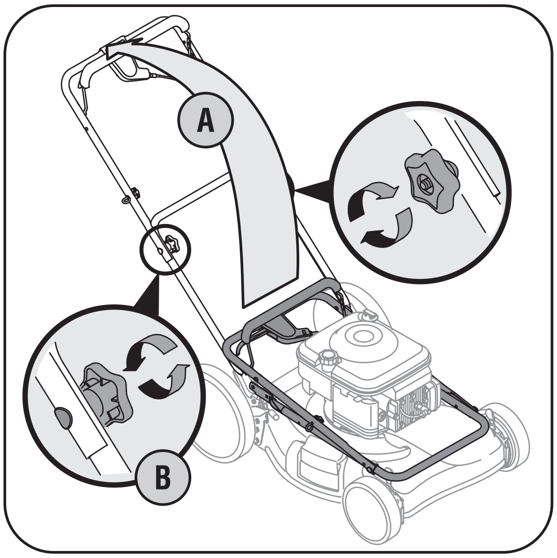

Figure 3-1

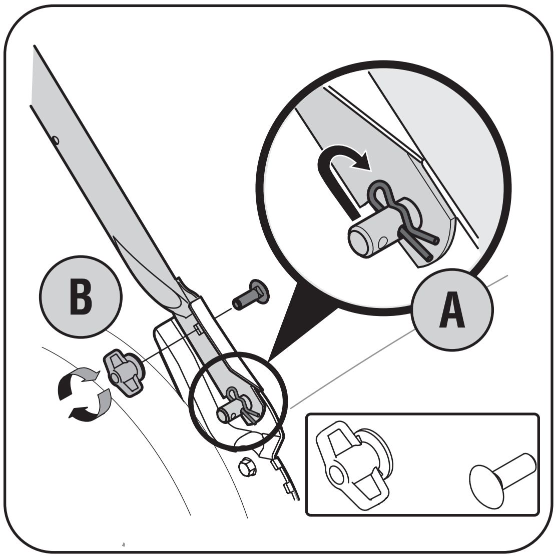

Figure 3-2

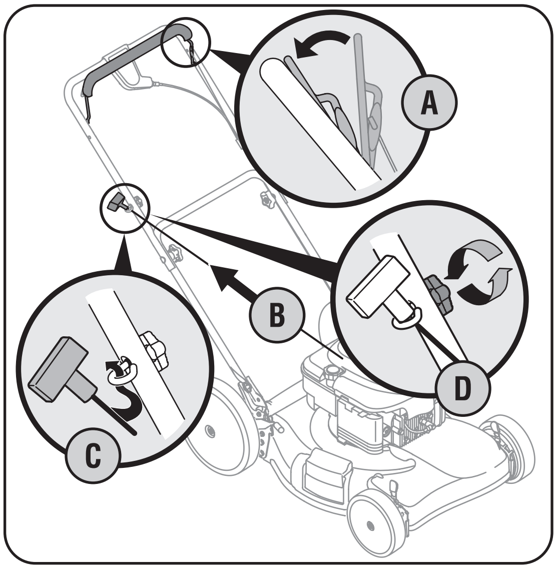

Figure 3-3

1. Remove any packing material which may be between upper and lower handles.
   a. Pull up and back on upper handle as shown in Figure 3-1. Make certain the lower handle is seated securely into the handle mounting brackets.
   b. Tighten star knobs securing upper handle to lower handle. Make sure that each carriage bolt is seated properly in the handle.
2. Locate hairpin clip on the weld pin on each side of lower handle.
   a. Remove hairpin clip from this hole. Using a pair of pliers, insert hairpin clip into the other hole on the weld pin. Repeat on other side. See Figure 3-2.
   b. Insert a carriage bolt from the hardware pack into the upper hole on the handle mounting bracket. Secure with one plastic wing nut, also included in the hardware pack. Repeat on other side.
3. The rope guide is attached to the right side of the upper handle. Loosen the wing nut which secures the rope guide.
   a. Hold the blade control against upper handle.
   b. Pull starter rope out of the engine. Release the blade control. See Figure 3-3.
   c. Slip starter rope into rope guide.
   d. Tighten wing nut.

   Insert post on cable ties into holes provided on the lower handle. Pull cable tie tight around cables and handle and trim excess.
4. Follow steps below to assemble the grass catcher:
   a. Place bag over frame so that its black plastic side is at the bottom.
   b. Slip plastic channel of grass bag over hooks on the frame. See Figure 3-4. All plastic channels except center top of bag attach from outside of bag.
   c. Attach center top of bag from inside of bag.

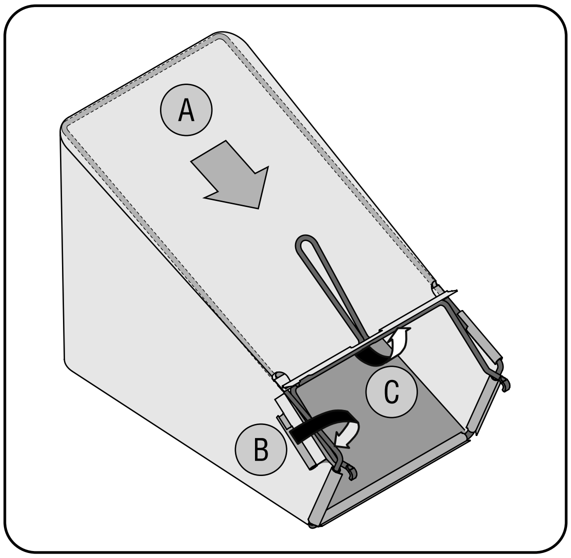

Figure 3-4

5. Follow steps below to attach grass catcher:
   a. Lift rear discharge door.
   b. Place grass catcher on the pivot rod. Let go of discharge door so that it rests on the grass catcher. See Figure 3-5.

WARNING: Never operate mower unless the hooks on the grass catcher are firmly seated on the pivot rod and the rear discharge door rests firmly against top of the grass catcher.

To remove grass catcher or convert to a mulcher (if equipped), lift rear discharge door on the mower. Lift grass catcher up and off of the pivot rod. Release rear discharge door to allow it to close rear opening of mower.

6. If coverting to side discharge, make sure grass catcher is off unit and rear discharge door is closed.
   a. Lift mulching plug on the right side of mower.
   b. Slide two hooks of side discharge chute under the hinge pin on the mulching plug assembly and lower the side mulching plug. See Figure 3-6.

NOTE: Do not remove the side mulching plug at any time, even when you are not mulching.

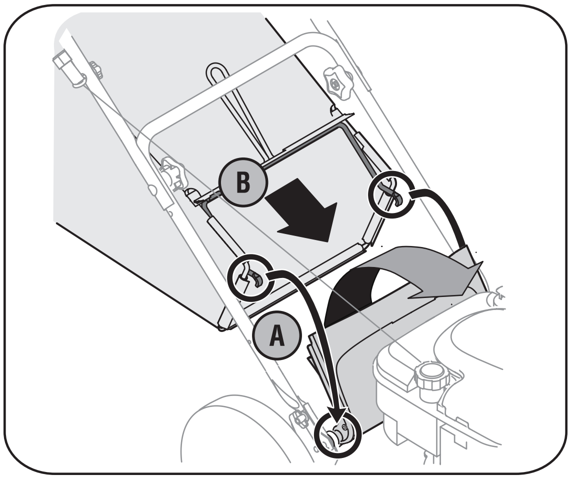

Figure 3-5

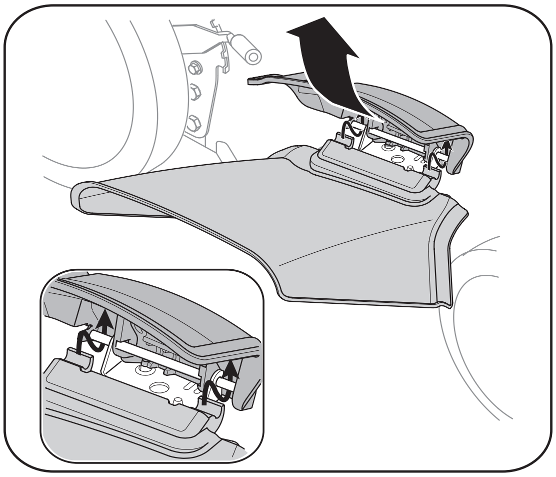

Figure 3-6

Adjustments

Cutting Height

A cutting height adjustment lever is located at each wheel. See Figure 3-7.

a. Pull the lever out and away from the mower.
b. Move the lever forward or back for desired cutting height.
c. Release lever towards mower deck.

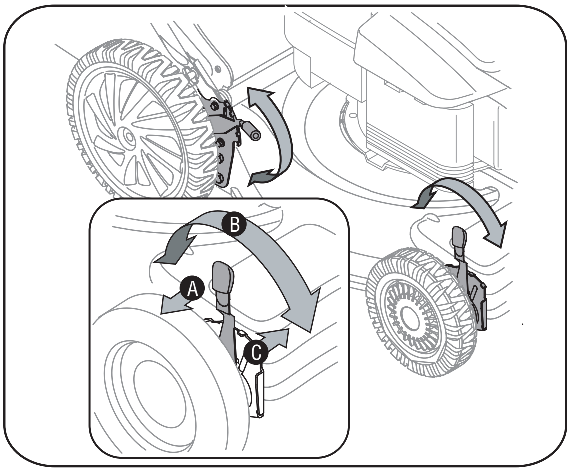

Figure 3-7

Drive Control

The adjustment wheel is located in the drive control handle housing and is used to tighten or loosen the drive belt. You will need to adjust the drive control if the mower does not propel itself with the drive control engaged or if the mower's wheels hesitate with the drive control engaged. If either of these conditions occur, rotate adjustment wheel clockwise to tighten cable or counterclockwise to loosen the cable. See Figure 3-8.

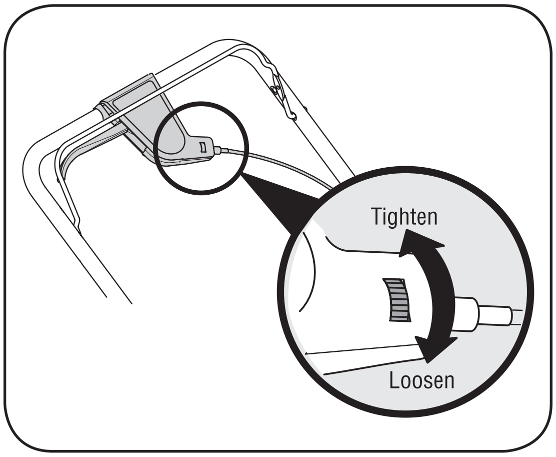

Figure3-8

CUTTING HEIGHT
All wheels must be placed in the same position.

GRASS CATCHER
Make certain bag is turned right side out before assembling (warning label will be on the outside).

WARNING

Never operate mower unless the hooks on the grass catcher are firmly seated on the pivot rod and the rear discharge door rests firmly against top of the grass catcher.

NOTES

Use this page to make notes and write down important information.